

Return Service Requested:

First Baptist Church at Pedricktown
P.O. Box 117
89 West Mill Street
Pedricktown, NJ 08067

-2020 Church Leaders-

Moderator	OPEN
Church Clerk	Eleanor Clemente
Treasurer	Bruce Lindle
Missionary Treasurer	Ruthann Moore
Financial Secretary	OPEN

Adult Discipleship Team (5)

Esther Jackson– chair
Joy Suiters
Loraine Young
Bill Keating
OPEN

Stewardship Team (7)

John Egan-chair
Lisa Rudderow-Secretary
Harry Moore
OPEN
Don Perry
John Cobin– Vice Chair
OPEN

Worship Team (5)

OPEN
Christine Cobin
Brian Heintzelman
Connie Clark-Chair
Lou Panichelli

Pastoral Care Team (5)

Tina Nipe– chair
Marion Crawford
Melby Hite
Patty Ferrell
Kathie Panichelli

Children & Youth Discipleship Team (5)

Jaclyn Minguez-chair
JoAnne Taylor
JoAnn Mulligan
Gary Minguez
Chrissy Cox

Mission Team (9)

Nancy Kohler-chair	Josephine Pedrick
Eleanor Clemente	OPEN
Betty Egan	Claire Kohler
Ruthann Moore	Gretchen Biermann
Warren Shiffer	

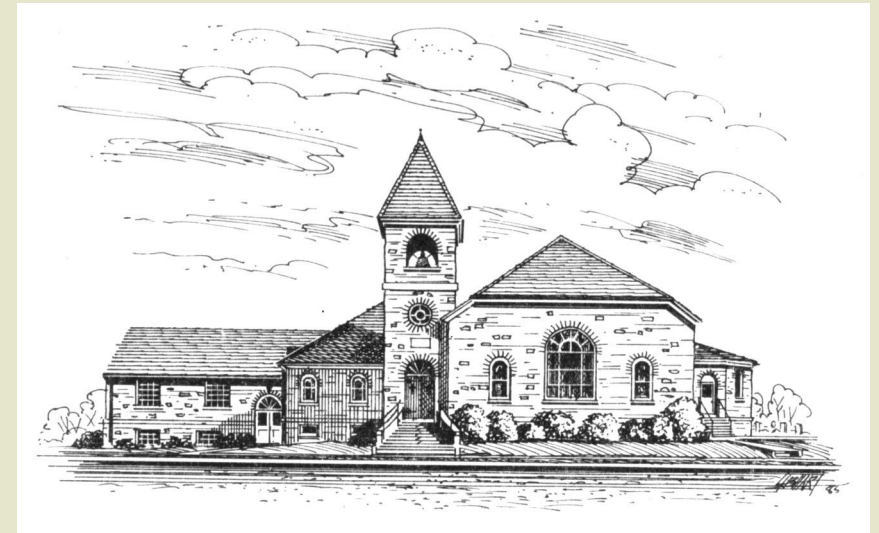
Please submit information to the office (299-2123) or email (fbcop@comcast.net) by the 20th of each month, to be considered for publication in this newsletter.

August
2020

CONTENTS:
Pastor's Message*Page 1***Through the
Decades***Page 3***Stewardship Report**
*Page 4***Cedars of Lebanon**
*Page 5***Prayer List**
*Page 6***God Amid
Pandemic**
Page 7**INSERT:**
Birthday Calendar

FBC Community

The First Baptist Church at Pedricktown



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Our Mission... "to birth and develop mature disciples of Jesus Christ who are characterized by faith, hope and love."

PASTOR'S MESSAGE**The Summer Sizzle:**

As I write this, the summer heat is upon us. It feels like an oven outside. Thank God for air conditioning!!!

The heat reminds me of the Old Testament account of Shadrack, Meshack, Abednego. They were true to God and found themselves in a fiery furnace. If you haven't read the account in some time, take the time to do so (Daniel 3).

When we experience the heat of life, whether thrust upon us because of our beliefs or whether it is just because people/systems are apathetic or antagonistic to the ways of God, we can be encouraged by and reminded how “Shad, Me, and Ben” responded in their circumstances.

Shad, Me and Ben knew who they believed in. They were not swayed by public opinion or outcry. While we need to be respectful of systems of the day, we also need to stay true to the faith that we hold onto and find in the Scriptures. At some level, these days feel like they are throwing the baby out with the bath water to use an old expression. If things continue in this direction, the Church will become an increasing target for some. It is important for us, to know who we believe in!!

Shad, Me and Ben also trusted God in all their circumstances. Even when it meant experiencing the hot seat, they were faithful to God. What an example!! We go through times in our lives when it is easy to deny God or to run from God. Shad, Me and Ben experienced one of those times, but didn’t waiver. For us, it could be illness, relationship struggles, financial issues, and the list goes on. Like Shad, Me and Ben, it is then when it is even more important to hold onto our faith and live it out.

Shad, Me, and Ben experienced God’s blessings in and as the result of the fire. The “cool” part of the story is that they were not in the fire alone. Beside not getting burned, they saw and felt God’s presence in the fire. They experienced God’s protection in the fire and God’s faithfulness through and after the encounter. They experienced blessings from God that they probably wouldn’t have experienced if it wasn’t for the fire. No doubt their faith was strengthened. No doubt their witness had great impact. No doubt they had learned God could be trusted in all of their days.

As we go through the summer heat and as we go through the fiery furnace of all the craziness that 2020 has brought us both corporately and personally, may we have the faith and fortitude of Shad, Me and Ben!! May we know who we believe in. May we trust that God in all our ways. And may we experience the faithfulness and blessings of God through this year and the years to come!!

Blessings in Christ!!

- Paul

God Amid Pandemic

Last spring, life changed as we became familiar with terms such as social distancing, flattening the curve and self-quarantining. We could hardly believe the closed schools, businesses and especially churches — just as Holy Week and Easter drew near! The coronavirus ran rampant in the world. Where was God?



But as the spread continued, many civic leaders stepped up, calmly informing us of the facts, of actions being taken to mitigate the crisis and of how we could help. Healthcare professionals risked their lives and endured separation from families; teachers drew on astounding stores of creativity to teach online; pastors delivered sermons and lessons to empty sanctuaries as members listened and prayed while living in lockdown. Surely God was present — through them!

Then I remembered how God assures us through Isaiah, “Fear not! When you pass through the waters, the fires, yes, even the pandemics of this world, I will be with you” (43:1-2, paraphrased). And Jesus echoes, “I am with you always” (Matthew 28:20).

—Sandy Hyland

Time to Make Up!

After an evening filled with vigorous sibling disagreements, three children finally turned in for the night. A few hours later, a major thunderstorm woke them all up. When their father heard the children conversing upstairs, he called to see what was happening.



A small, timid voice answered, “We’re all in the closet forgiving one another!”

Answer to Through the Decades

The picture is of Hurff & Vicki Justice and little Jackie!!! The picture was found in the 1980 church directory.

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS:

Emergency Prayer Chain: Josephine Pedrick (299-3229) & Evelyn Shiffer (299-4874)
Service Personnel– Isaac Hernandez, Sue Springsteen, Kyle Hennessey, Michael Kacer, Melissa Smith, Brad Hyatt, Mark Lindle, Tammy Hunt ,Micah Warren, Sam Baker, Kyle Frankenfield, Frank Servais V, Matthew Suiters, Arturo Hernandez-Cruz
Lois Nipe-Merion Gardens 1021, Frieda Bennett, Lindsay Place, Rm. 133
Missionary for the Month—Brian & Lynette Smith (Haiti)



- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| K.C. Biermann | Brian McFarland & Family |
| Jessie Kite | Nikki-Addiction |
| Bill Goss—MS | Mike Seders-MS |
| Mary Ann Culletto | Eric Jacobson |
| Helen & Bill Keating | Carol Blithe |
| Jonathan Rizzo | Dick Dennis |
| Charles Jackson | Barbara Baber |
| Meghan Cox-migraines | Alma Lawson |
| David Warren | Joseph-speech |
| Jo Pedrick | Nancy Hocknell |
| Pat Heppel | Kelly McIlvaine |
| Helen Tunstill | Maribeth Glynn |
| Christopher Sandone | Vic Pritchett-heart |
| Patty Jitima | Borelli Family |
| Ruth Jordan | Patty Suiters |
| Jim Ludlam | Bill Huber |
| Luis Santiago | Wayne Niebauer |
| Brian Smith—missionary | Medical Personnel |
| Gretchen Biermann | First Responders |
| Tom Strong | People with COVID-19 |
| Brent Hathaway | Linda Eller |
| Martha Dennis | Debbie Booker |
| Greyson Peck | Carrie Cunningham |
| Kathy McDonald | John Taylor |
| Mr. & Mrs. Payon | John |
| Kathy Kane & family | Family of Naomi Trostel |
| Holly Eckert | Family of Carl Ottinger |
| Lynn Nixon | Family of Russell Drabold III |
| Family of Nick Gold | Melissa Sparks |
| Jeff Perry | Karen Venello |
| Family of Edna Prigger | Jerry Suiters |
| Family of David Bretz | Anne Melson |
| Family of Donald Shiffer | Richard Bond |
| Family of Willard Bond | Family of Geraldine Rothmiller |

- Cancer:**
Jack Mulligan
Kevin Jordan
Carol McFarland
Dawn Asher
Karl Biermann
Ed Ryan
Tom Freeman
Jesse Barreras
Deanna Sakaguchi
Gina Grasso
David Smith
Bernie Lodge
Anita Delvechio
Barbara McBride
Patty Kosky
James Boyer—Leukemia
Maggie
Matt Schaeffer
John Harvey
Barb Snyder
Len
Rev. Kevin Lowe
Duff Wheeler
Matthew Bunsu
Andy Cook
Bo Grier
Sarah Scala
Marie Adams
Randy Tyler
Debbie Tomaso
Warren Shiffer

First Baptist Church through the Decades

Can you guess who this is?
Look to the back of the newsletter
for the answer.



Important Announcement!!!
As we have found the outdoor worship to be working well, the LC has decided that the re- turn to indoor worship scheduled for August 2nd will be pushed back to **September 13th**. Please note this change, and if you wish to join in-person worship we will continue to gather in the shady portion of the FBC parking lot each Sunday morning at 9 am. Bring a folding chair, wear a mask, and keep socially distant from others. You may also join in worship by listening to Pas- tor Paul's messages each week on YouTube, as usual. We believe these are the safest and most appropriate choices we can make at this time. Be blessed in our Lord as we worship Him!

In-Person Worship at FBC will be held outdoors until September 13th...each Sunday at 9 am. (Rain contingency - Fellowship Hall)



Stewardship Report		
	Last Week (7/27/20)	Fiscal Year
Tithes Received:	\$3,461.00	\$77,773.06
Budget Needed:	\$3,010.00	\$90,300.00
Difference +/-:	+\$451.00	-\$12,526.94

Patient Attention, Valuable Discoveries

For many people, the coronavirus pandemic has been a test of patience — or worse. Medically vulnerable people face an anxious time of hypervigilance. Furloughed workers wait on hold or in lines for assistance. Special events have been canceled or rescheduled.

Those not impacted directly deal with assorted frustrations and inconveniences. Many people are learning the benefit of slowing down, being present (even virtually) to others and practicing patient attention.

Interestingly, scientist Isaac Newton did some of his best work when the plague forced Cambridge University to close. At home, the inquisitive student invented calculus and developed groundbreaking theories of gravity and optics. Later Newton called 1666 his annus mirabilis (“year of wonders”) and reportedly said, “If I have made any valuable discoveries, it [owes] more to patient attention than to any other talent.”

What have you discovered during the Covid-19 crisis? What appreciations have you developed for aspects of life you may have previously taken for granted? What has social distancing taught you about the value of neighbors, church, community volunteering?

During the pandemic, what have you learned about persistence and God’s presence? What empathy do you now feel for writers of words such as “I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope” (Psalm 130:5, NIV)?

CEDARS OF LEBANON

There has been \$11,630.00 pledged as of 07/19/2020

Total received as of 07/19/2020 is \$16,790.00



We continue to thank you for supporting Camp Lebanon and helping children who would like to attend.

We appreciate all that you have given to help us meet and surpass our goal. Just as a reminder, if you have been putting off giving a contribution, we only have five more months left in the campaign.

Don’t forget to earmark the contribution for CEDARS OF LEBANON to make sure that it is applied to the right account. Stay safe, God Bless you!

Learning — and laughing — on the fly

Faced with the sudden move to livestreamed church services, many pastors and worship leaders had to learn new technology quickly during the pandemic. As they were “winging it,” bloopers and bobbles added levity to the tense time.

For instance, a fake tree fell on a drummer while a worship song was being broadcast from Georgia. After getting too close to a candle, a vicar in England had to pause to extinguish flames from his sweater. And several preachers appeared on screen with cartoon-like features after inadvertently turning on social media filters.

“This wasn’t planned,” wrote the pastor about the falling ficus, which didn’t cause injury but quickly went viral. “But God used it to bring laughter to the hearts of many. For that, we are thankful.”